

BIG BELL IS TAKEN DOWN

Fire Alarm System Will Be Changed Until Such Time as New Engine House Is Built.

GONG WHISTLE TO BE USED

History of the Famous Old Bell, Which Is to Be Stored Away After Twenty-seven Years of Service.

Full many a day will pass ere the big fire bell rings again its warning to the people who are so familiar with its musical tone. Yesterday unfeeling carpenters, men employed by Contractor Lebeck, removed the old bell from its midair position and it will now be stored away in the temporary jail, to remain until such time as the council feels financially able to build a reputable engine house and provide a bell tower.

Excepting the bell at St. Mary's Catholic church, the old fire bell is the most musical in this part of the country. Its tone is decidedly odd. When it tolled the funeral knell of some prominent citizen, its tone was extremely sad. Proper manipulation of the bell could call up one's most tender sentiment, or fill him with the wildest alarm. It is truly a wonderful bell, and it has an interesting history.

When the bell was lowered to the ground yesterday Chief of Police Hallock, observing a newspaper representative, hastened to him to suggest that he read the inscription on the bell. "Yes; read it," urged Fire Chief Stockton. Hallock and Stockton were both much younger and better looking when the bell was first raised at the rear of the old city hall, and, as both were more or less instrumental in its purchase, its temporary removal called up sentiment of years long gone by.

[This is the inscription which appears in clear-cut letters on the top of the bell:]

"Presented to the Astoria Fire Department by the Ladies and Citizens of Astoria, Oregon, Through the Efforts of the Firemen's Bazaar and Fair—February 20 and 21, 1878. Oregon Brass Works, Makers, Portland, Oregon."

History of the Bell.

Prior to the year 1877 Astoria depended for fire protection upon the activity of what was practically a bucket brigade. In 1877 a regular department was organized. The need of a bell was at once apparent, and the enthusiasts determined that a bell should be secured. The meeting at which this decision was reached was held in what is now the Gem saloon, a resort then conducted by Peter Wilhelm. Fire Chief Stockton was among those present at the meeting, and when the crowd left the place and went upon the street the enthusiasts were prepared for immediate action. An old-time character named Van, who used to push a handcart around town, happened by, and the cart was taken from him by the men, who went about the city collecting stuff suitable for an exhibit at a firemen's fair. The fair was helped along by the ladies of the city and a sum sufficient to pay for the bell was raised. The bell cost \$550.

The Oregon Brass Works secured the contract for casting the bell, and a committee was sent to Portland to see that the work was properly done. The first bell cast did not give out the sound which the Astorians wanted, so another bell was cast. This, too, failed to produce the melody desired, but the third trial resulted in success. When the metal was heated the Astorians threw a considerable amount of silver into the pot, and it is related that Hon. John C. Trullinger, since deceased, who was a member of the com-

mittee, tossed a shining \$20 gold piece into the pot. The rich tone of the bell is attributed to the silver which it contains.

The bell weighs 1282 pounds. There is a small break at the rim, but this break occurred when the bell was cast and seemed to have absolutely no effect on the sound. Among those who assisted in the purchase of the bell was Mrs. Nancy Welch, who donated a lot toward the fund.

The spelling of the word "bazar" in the inscription gives present-day Astorians an idea of the rather peculiar spelling rule formerly in vogue, or, perhaps, is mute evidence of the inability of the designer to properly spell the word.

The New Alarm System.

A brand-new fire alarm system is to be installed in the city for a time, at least. When the council decided to erect a new engine house at the foot of Tenth street, it was the intention to install the bell there, and place it on a stand eight feet above the ground. But Chief Stockton recalled that the old bell tower was twice increased its height because the bell could not be heard, so the plan was abandoned. The bell originally was about 45 feet in the air. For a time, before any large buildings were erected, it could be heard, but soon it was raised eight feet. Later it was raised another ten feet, until it was about 65 feet above the ground. At this elevation it could be heard for miles.

It is now the intention to install a gong whistle instead of the bell. The whistle will be located at the works of the Astoria Electric Company, which has kindly agreed to operate it for the city without charge. The whistle will be similar to that in use at Portland and the expense of installing it will be less than \$50.

"You should explain to the people the system we will employ in manipulating the whistle," said Chief Stockton yesterday. "We have nine fire alarm boxes, numbered, as they have been installed, from west to east, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 9, 12 and 14. If box 4 sends in an alarm, the gong whistle will be sounded four times; should the alarm come in from box 9, nine taps will be sounded. So with the other boxes numbered less than 10. If box 12 sends in an alarm, the whistle will be sounded once, followed by two taps. The first tap will indicate 10 and the following taps one each. Box 16 would be sounded by one tap, followed after a brief interval by six rapid taps. The alarm will be repeated four times."

The fire alarm boxes are located in the various parts of the city as follows:

- Box 4—West Astoria.
- Box 5—Trullinger's mill.
- Box 6—The Louvre.
- Box 7—The Holden house, corner Ninth and Duane.
- Box 8—Chemical engine house, foot of Tenth.
- Box 10—Central hotel, Fifteenth and Commercial.
- Box 9—Clatsop mills.
- Box 12—Now at Fisher & Lindstrom's new store, formerly old car barns; will be removed shortly to Scholfield & Hauke's.
- Box 14—McGregor's mill.

Collieries Will Close.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., June 23.—Most of the collieries in the anthracite region will close for the first five days of July. The operators say that the large number of pikies to be held before and after the Fourth will take many men from the mines, and, owing to the present light demand for coal, they have decided to close their collieries.

EXCHANGED MESSAGES.

Roosevelt and Fairbanks Give the Glad Hand to Each Other.

Chicago, June 23.—Senator Fairbanks was at his hotel when he heard of the nomination by acclamation of President Roosevelt, and he promptly sent this telegram:

"The President, Washington: I am pleased to extend to you my heartiest

congratulations upon your nomination amidst great enthusiasm.

"CHARLES W. FAIRBANKS."

Later in the afternoon the senator received this telegram, dated at the white house, June 23:

"Permit me to extend to you and the country my heartfelt congratulations on your nomination. I need hardly add how pleased I am personally. THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

Senator and Mrs. Fairbanks leave tomorrow for Indianapolis, where they will be tendered a reception tomorrow night.

Hundreds of telegrams were received by the senator this evening from all parts of the country, and by nightfall Fairbanks' buttons were everywhere to be seen.

GENERAL SLOCUM INQUEST.

Total of Bodies Recovered is Now Over Nine Hundred.

New York, June 23.—Much of the testimony given at the inquest today into the General Slocum disaster was to the effect that the life preservers on the steamer were practically useless. At least half a dozen witnesses described how difficult these preservers were to get at, and how they fell to pieces at the critical times.

Captain Van Schaick was brought into the court room on a stretcher. He was suffering greatly, but expressed willingness to undergo the examination by the coroner. He was ordered back to the hospital, however, and the examination postponed until next week. Twenty-four additional bodies were recovered today, bringing the total number of the known drowned up to 907.

ALBANY DEPOT ON FIRE.

By Hard Work Building Is Saved From Total Destruction.

Albany, Ore., June 23.—The Southern Pacific depot at this city was seriously damaged by fire today at noon. When the southbound overland passed into Albany at noon, some sparks from the engine fell on the roof of the depot and caused a blaze. The dry roof ignited easily, and the fire was soon fanned into a large flame by a strong wind.

It was by hard work that the flames were held in check by a large number of fire-extinguishers and water from the depot hydrants until the arrival of the Albany fire department. The fire was not extinguished until the department was compelled to lay hose to the Albany canal, several blocks distant.

The fire had spread across the entire front of the large building before it was under control. Only heroic work prevented the destruction of the buildings. The rooms and furniture of the depot hotel are badly damaged by water, and Southern Pacific Agent Frank estimates the total loss from the fire at \$2000.

CORTELYOU IS CHAIRMAN.

Will Manage the Coming Campaign for the Republicans.

Chicago, June 23.—George B. Cortelyou was chosen chairman of the republican national committee at a meeting held today just after the adjournment of the convention.

In thanking the committee for the honor he told the members that, while he would be glad to have the benefit of their advice and counsel, he intended to be chairman in fact, and would accept no dictation from anyone, high or low.

Cortelyou made no formal statement of his plans. He resigned as secretary of commerce and labor as soon as he was elected chairman, the resignation to take effect as soon as his successor outlives, about July 1. Secretary Cortelyou will not give any active time to political matters until he retires from the cabinet.

No vice chairman will be appointed, and the new chairman will divide his time between the New York and the Chicago headquarters.

Headquarters will not be opened in either city until the latter part of July. Meanwhile Cortelyou expects to select the executive committee and make his preliminary arrangements for the campaign.

Elmer Dover of Ohio was elected secretary; Cornelius N. Bliss of New York, treasurer; William F. Stone of Maryland, sergeant-at-arms.

A resolution was passed authorizing the chairman to appoint an executive committee of nine, with such other officers as he deemed necessary for the management of the campaign.

Heavy Firing Heard.

Chefoo, June 24.—2 p. m.—Heavy firing was heard in the direction of Port Arthur during several hours last night and this morning.

Astoria's Busiest Store

Enormous Stock of Summer Goods

This week we will set a new pace at THE BIG STORE. Our Representations of hot weather goods are vast and varied. They practically comprise everything for everybody, and for town country or seashore service. Now that the vacation season has begun, it will be of interest to the prospective go-aways to make their purchases at THE BIG STORE.

Wash Fabrics

Thousands of yards of Wash Fabrics. All the most demanded materials. A splendid representative event to which hundreds will unquestionably flock this week.

Intelligent Service, With Prices Much Lower than Elsewhere

C. H. COOPER

TEDDY GETS THE NEWS.

Was With His Family When He Heard of His Nomination.

Washington, June 23.—Surrounded by members of his family, President Roosevelt received the announcement that he had been nominated unanimously by the republicans at Chicago. The news was received by telephone at the white house by a reporter of the Associated Press in advance of its receipt over the special telegraph wire running from Chicago to the executive offices.

At 2:13 p. m. a bulletin was given to Secretary Loeb sometime before the president left his offices in the executive building and had gone to the white house for luncheon. Secretary Loeb immediately conveyed the news to him there. Seated on the veranda of the white house, chatting with Mrs. Roosevelt, his sister-in-law, Miss Cawren, and other members of the family, the president received Mr. Loeb's announcement. Hundreds of congratulatory telegrams from all parts of the United States were received by the president tonight.

COMMANDER KELLOGG KILLED.

Fell From a Fourth Story Window of Hotel at Which He Was Stopping.

Norfolk, Va., June 23.—Commander A. G. Kellogg, U. S. A., fell from a fourth story window in the Munroe hotel in Portsmouth at 5 o'clock tonight to the sidewalk, sustaining injuries from which he died an hour later at the naval hospital.

It is thought that Kellogg during an attack of vertigo lost his balance and fell from the window at which he was sitting.

TWO DROWN; ONE INSANE.

Boy Falls Into River and Man Who Attempts Rescue Drowns.

Helena, Mont., June 23.—Harry Bullock, aged 9, while fishing in Bitter Root river, fell into the river. Ernest Rich, who was walking in the vicinity with Miss Anna Strong, jumped in to save the boy, and both were drowned. Miss Strong fainted when she saw the two drowning, and has since lost her reason. Mrs. Rich is almost insane because of the drowning of her son.

Arrested for Stealing Blankets.

Colfax, Wash., June 23.—Clark Miller, Charley Jones and Archie Frazier were arrested at the Elberton picnic last night for stealing a roll of blankets from James Lloyd. They were found guilty before a justice of the peace for that precinct and sentenced to 20 days' imprisonment in the county jail and were incarcerated this afternoon.

Talked With the President.

Washington, June 23.—Paul Morton of Chicago, who was offered the position of secretary of the navy by President Roosevelt to succeed Secretary Moody, was in conference with the president at the white house tonight. Morton declined to make any statement and left later in the evening for New York.

Have Ninety Thousand.

New York, June 23.—Jacob H. Schiff, treasurer of the committee appointed by the mayor to solicit subscriptions for the relief of victims of the General Slocum disaster, reported today that the committee had thus far received over \$90,000.

A. V. ALLEN

Headquarters for

Fruit Jars

Mason Jars, pints, per dozen 60c

Mason Jars, quarts, per dozen 70c

Mason Jars, half-gallons, per dozen 95c

Jar Rubbers, per dozen 5c and 10c

Jar Caps, per dozen 30c

ALSO WIDE-MOUTH JARS AND JELLY GLASSES.

LIFE CONVICT PARDONED.

Has Served Twenty Years for Crime He Never Committed.

Helena, Mont., June 23.—Governor Toole today pardoned William Walton, convicted 20 years ago for the murder of John Edwards near Deer Lodge and sentenced to the penitentiary for life. The pardon is the result of the confession of William Miles made at Kansas City, Mo., June 13, when he admitted having killed Edwards.

Russians Repulsed.

Tokio, June 23.—Four thousand Russians, including infantry, cavalry and artillery, attacked Ai Yang Pien, about 50 miles northeast of Fengwangcheng, last Tuesday. The Russians were repulsed and retreated toward Shin Kai Ling. The Russians lost 5 killed and 20 wounded. The Japanese loss is not given.

THIRTY KILLED IN WRECK.

Disastrous Railroad Accident in Spain Last Night.

Madrid, June 23.—Thirty persons were killed last night in a train wreck in the province of Teruel, one of the most mountainous in Spain, abounding in torrents.

The train was derailed on the bridge over the Jiloca river and the coaches were burned.

Epidemic of Horse Stealing.

Pendleton, June 23.—Umatilla county seems to be having an epidemic of horse stealing of late. In the past week Sheriff T. D. Taylor and his deputies have rounded up several men who are wanted on charges of that nature, and yesterday he captured W. Stephens of Echo, who had gathered together 12 head of horses and taken them to Troutdale for sale. Stephens claims that he bought the horses and did not know that any of them were stolen. It is thought by the sheriff that there is a gang of men operating in the county, and several persons are under surveillance.

Miles Has Disappeared.

Kansas City, Mo., June 23.—William Miles, who confessed that he killed John Edwards in Montana nearly 20 years ago and who has been released by the Kansas City police, has disappeared. He said the homicide was justifiable.

BASEBALL SCORES.

Pacific Coast.

At Portland—Los Angeles, 4; Portland, 6.

At Tacoma—Oakland, 2; Tacoma, 10.

At Seattle—San Francisco, 7; Seattle, 5.

Pacific National.

At Spokane—Salt Lake, 4; Spokane, 12.

At Boise—Butte, 8; Boise, 9.

American.

At St. Louis—Detroit, 2; St. Louis, 9.

At Philadelphia—Boston, 1; Philadelphia, 5.

At Chicago—Cleveland, 1; Chicago, 4.

At Washington—New York, 7; Washington, 4.

National.

At Pittsburg—St. Louis, 3; Pittsburg, 1.

At Brooklyn—Philadelphia, 4; Brooklyn, 5.

At Boston—New York, 6; Boston, 2.

At Cincinnati—Chicago, 6; Cincinnati, 4.

Vaudeville Circus Strands.

Centralia, Wash., June 23.—W. M. Smith's vaudeville circus, which showed here last night, went busted after the performance. The management had not paid any salaries for two weeks, and after the show a free-for-all fight took place at the Depot hotel. Three of the performers—two musicians and an actor—entered the manager's room and badly pounded him. The assistance of some b-standers was called in and the men satisfied. The night watch interfered and prevented further damage to the manager.

Harvard, 5; Yale, 3.

Cambridge, June 23.—Harvard defeated Yale at baseball by a score of 5 to 3. It was the first game of a series between the two colleges.

Notes.

All fraternal organizations, labor unions and firms intending to participate in the Fourth of July parade, please notify the grand marshal at once, so they may be given place in the parade. O. I. PETERSON, Grand Marshal.

The Weather.

Portland, June 23.—For Oregon: Friday, fair; slowly rising temperature.



THE whole nervous system is disturbed when the eyes are strained. Eyes should be examined frequently as age advances, especially those of school children. Many children who are thought dull and stupid suffer from defective vision and become the brightest of scholars when the defect is corrected.

I Have the Best Modern Instruments for Detecting Any Defect in Vision.

KATHERINE WADE, Graduate Optician.

AT THE OWL DRUG STORE.